

Essay Map

Name: _____

Topic: _____

Introduction:

What is the Cold War?
Why did it break out?
Introduce main ideas:
... that USSR was to blame
... that USA was to blame
... that both were to blame

Main Idea #1:

USA was to blame

Supporting Details

1. USA developed N bomb in 1945, kept it secret from Stalin
2. Truman doctrine polarised the world into capitalism and communism
3. NATO (1949) created a new military alliance, USSR was not part of NATO

Main Idea #2:

USSR was to blame

Supporting Details

1. Stalin did not stick to his Yalta promises on Poland + He created satellite states.
2. Cominform, Comecon and Warsaw pact were set up by USSR.
3. Berlin Blockade was provocative

Main Idea #3:

Both were to blame

Supporting Details

1. Ideological differences were vast, there was mutual distrust and misunderstanding of aims and
2. Both sides pursued own interests, during Yalta/Potsdam and after. (i.e. Satellite states and US
3. Both sides re-armed rapidly and increased military spending

Conclusion

Briefly restate main points (but in different words)
Do not re-introduce new ideas or information.
Take a position, do not conclude an essay by saying that all points have merit; you need to "pick a side". If you have used strong arguments, then it should be a natural progression to choosing a particular line of argument in the conclusion.

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